Applicant: Motoyuki Tsuihij et al.

Attorney's Docket No.: 10417-092002 / S21-Serial No.: 10/781 009

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Serial No.: 10/781,009 Filed: February 18, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A recycling method for recycling waste particles comprising: machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer; solidifying into a cake, particles generated by machining the crystal ingot or the semiconductor wafer;

transporting the cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake.

7. (Currently amended) A recycling method for recycling waste particles comprising: machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer; solidifying into a cake, particles generated by machining the crystal ingot or the semiconductor wafer;

transporting the cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and recycling said cake as an ingot.

8. (Currently amended) A recycling method for recycling waste particles comprising: machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer; solidifying into a cake at a predetermined water content, particles generated by machining the crystal ingot or the semiconductor wafer;

transporting the cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting said cake to recycle said cake as an ingot.

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9. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a semiconductor ingot comprising: machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer; solidifying into a cake at a predetermined water content and without any chemical reactions, particles generated by machining the crystal ingot or the semiconductor wafer; transporting the cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting said cake.

- 10. (Previously presented) A recycling method according to one of claims 6 to 8, wherein machining comprises abrading, grinding or polishing, dicing, back grinding or wafer polishing.
- 11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein machining comprises abrading, grinding or polishing, dicing, back grinding or wafer polishing.
 - 12-18. (Cancelled)
- 19. (Currently amended) A method for processing particles comprising: solidifying into a cake, particles that are generated by machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer;

transporting the cake <u>in a container such that</u> where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake into an ingot.

- 20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, further comprising: solidifying said particles at a predetermined water content, without any chemical reactions.
- 21. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein machining comprises abrading, grinding or polishing.

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22. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein machining said semiconductor wafer comprises dicing, back grinding or wafer polishing.

- 23. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein said particles comprises Si flakes.
- 24. (Currently amended) A recycling method for recycling waste particles, comprising: transporting a cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake which is produced by solidifying particles generated by machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer.
- 25. (Currently amended) A recycling method for recycling waste particles comprising: transporting a cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake to recycle the cake as an ingot, said cake produced by solidifying particles generated by machining a crystal ingot or a semiconductor wafer at a predetermined water content.
- 26. (Currently amended) A method for fabricating a semiconductor ingot comprising: transporting a cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake which is produced by solidifying particles generated by machining a crystal ingot or a semiconductor wafer at a predetermined water content and without any chemical reactions.
- 27. (Currently amended) A method for processing particles comprising: transporting a cake in a container such that where dryness is prevented; and melting the cake into an ingot, said cake produced by solidifying particles that are generated by machining a crystal ingot into a wafer or machining a semiconductor wafer.